

MEMORANDUM

STAT

TO: [REDACTED] FWPC, EEO

FROM: [REDACTED]

RE: Federal Women's Program IAC Meeting - 13 October 1978

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Ms. Beth Abramowitz, Domestic Policy Staff, White House, spoke on the report of the President to Congress which has been prepared under her direction. This report (required under Public Law 94-167) concerns recommendations to Congress on implementation of the National Plan of Action by July 31, 1978.

Ms. Abramowitz stated that laws providing improved conditions for women in employment and appointments are most promising for passage. Least promising are those on health and other economic issues that are not employment related. She believes that more work to benefit disabled women is much needed. Work on battered women issues is much further along as this is an understandable issue: two bills are under way. Despite this beginning, however, she believes that all issues pertaining to neglected women---battered women, female offenders, and rural women are not pretty and therefore are not receiving sufficient attention. The area of women who own businesses has received a great deal of attention although female entrepreneurs are a very small minority. She believes that Title 4 has given a great push to provide equity in education for women.

Because Sara Weddington, White House replacement for Midge Costanza, is currently establishing issues for next year, information on issues to be considered should be sent to Ms. Weddington's staff promptly. Issues already under consideration include: veterans' preference and child care in Federal buildings. (OMB regulations are a problem on the latter point. The question is raised, "Why should the Federal Government subsidize its own employees while the poor cannot get subsidies for parks and recreation?")

A memo distributed by Ms. Costanza just before she left office should still be replied to. Attendees suggested that Ms. Weddington might want to re-issue this memo.